

Message Text

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ACTION ARA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AID-05 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-08 FRB-01
INR-10 NSAE-00 ICA-20 TRSE-00 XMB-04 OPIC-06
SP-02 LAB-04 SIL-01 OMB-01 NSC-05 SS-15 STR-07
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TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1182
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E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: ETRD, ECON, BF, CU
SUBJ: CUBAN TRADE DELEGATION TO THE BAHAMAS

1. TRIBUNE OF JUNE 19 REPORTS THAT A THREE MAN CUBAN TRADE DELEGATION COMPOSED OF RENE BLANCO, COMMERCIAL ATTACHE OF CUBA FOR THE CARIBBEAN; JESUS GARCIA, HEAD OF CUBA'S NATURAL PRODUCTS RESEARCH, AND ORLANDO ROMERO, DIRECTOR OF MEDI CUBA WERE IN NASSAU FOR SEVERAL DAYS BEGINNING APPROXIMATELY JUNE 5, SEEKING GCOB OPENING OF TRADE CHANNELS WITH CUBA. THE DELEGATION, WHICH MET WITH DPM AND MINISTER OF FINANCE ARTHUR D. HANNA AND BAHAMAS CHAMBER OF COMMERCE PRESIDENT VINCENT D'AGUILAR, SUBMITTED THE FOLLOWING LIST OF GOODS CUBA WISHES TO EXPORT TO THE BAHAMAS: RUM, VEGETABLES, FRUITS, FRUIT JUICES, SCHOOL NOTE BOOKS, CANDIES, MEDICINES (150 TYPES), ROUGH POLISHED MARBLE AND SUGAR.

2. HANNA, WHO IS PRESENTLY IN WASHINGTON HEADING GCOB DELEGATION TO CARIBBEAN CONFERENCE FOR ECONOMIC COOPERATION, COULD NOT BE REACHED BY TRIBUNE FOR COMMENT. D'AGUILAR, HOWEVER, COMMENTED TO THE TRIBUNE THAT THE 'OUTCOME OF CUBAN PROPOSAL WOULD DEPEND ON HOW THE CHAMBER'S COUNCIL AND GOVERNMENT FELT ABOUT THE MATTER. THE DELEGATION SAID THEY WOULD

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BE HAPPY TO RECEIVE A TRADE DELEGATION FROM THE BAHAMAS IN CUBA. THEY WANT TO SELL TO THE BAHAMAS BUT THERE IS VERY LITTLE WE COULD SELL TO THEM.'

3. COMMENT: TRIBUNE STORY APPARENTLY WAS PROMPTED BY NOTICE IN THE BAHAMAS CHAMBER OF COMMERCE JUNE BULLETIN WHICH CONTAINED A BRIEF REPORT ON THE CUBAN DELEGATION'S VISIT TO THE CHAMBER.

4. GCOB STATISTICAL TRADE SUMMARY SHOWS DOLS 46,000 IN GOODS
WERE IMPORTED FROM CUBA IN 1975 AND DOLS 14,000 IN 1976;
BAHAMAS EXPORTED NO GOODS TO CUBA IN 1975 AND ONLY DOLS 17,000
IN 1976. END COMMENT.
TAYLOR

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Message Attributes

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Draft Date: 21 jun 1978
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